

**MATH 217 - LINEAR ALGEBRA**  
**Homework 1 Part B, DUE Thursday, January 18 at 11:59pm**  
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1. Decide whether the following statements are true or false. Briefly justify your answers.

(a) 2 is even or 3 is odd.

**Solution:** True, both P and Q are true, so the "or" statement is also true.

(b) If the Riemann Hypothesis is true, then 217 is not a prime number.

**Solution:** True, Q is true. "If" propositions can only be false when Q is false.

(c)  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x$  if and only if  $\tan(\pi/6) = \sqrt{3}$ .

**Solution:** True, both P and Q are true, so  $P \implies Q$  and  $Q \implies P$  are true.

(d) If the set of even prime numbers is infinite, then 10 is even and  $10^{10}$  is odd.

**Solution:** True, P is false.

(e) If every right triangle in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  has two acute angles, then every real number has a positive cube root.

**Solution:** False, P is true but Q is false.

2. (a) Let  $P(x)$  be a statement whose truth value depends on  $x$ . An example is a value of  $x$  that makes  $P(x)$  true, and a counterexample is a value of  $x$  that makes  $P(x)$  false. Fill in the blank spaces with “is true”, “is false”, or “nothing” as appropriate:

**Solution:**

	$\forall x, P(x)$	$\exists x \text{ s.t. } P(x)$
An example proves	nothing	is true
A counterexample proves	is false	nothing

- (b) Every prime number is even or odd.

**Solution:** True, prime numbers are all integers, which are all either even or odd.

- (c) Every prime number is even or every prime number is odd.

**Solution:** False, 3 and 2 are counterexamples respectively.

- (d) There exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}, n < x$ .

**Solution:** False, if you fix such a  $n$ ,  $n \not< n - 1$  which is a contradiction.

- (e) For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n < x$ .

**Solution:** True,  $n = \lfloor x \rfloor < x$  by definition.

- (f) Some squares are rectangles.

**Solution:** True, all squares are rectangles, so some squares are also rectangles.

- (g) For every nonnegative real number  $a$ , there exists a unique real number  $x$  such that  $x^2 = a$ .

**Solution:** False,  $4 = 2^2 = (-2)^2$ .

3. Formulate the negation of each of the statements below in a meaningful way (these statements have been recycled from Problems 1 and 2). Note: just writing “It is not the case that . . . ” before each statement will not receive credit, as that does not help the reader understand the meaning of the negation. (No justification is needed – you may just write the negation).

- (a) 2 is even or 3 is odd.

**Solution:** 2 is not even and 3 is not odd.

- (b) If the Riemann Hypothesis is true, then 217 is not a prime number.

**Solution:** The Riemann Hypothesis is true and 217 is a prime number.

- (c)  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x$  if and only if  $\tan(\pi/6) = \sqrt{3}$ .

**Solution:**  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x$  if and only if  $\tan(\pi/6) \neq \sqrt{3}$ .

- (d) If the set of even prime numbers is infinite, then 10 is even and  $10^{10}$  is odd.

**Solution:** The set of even prime numbers is infinite, and either 10 is not even or  $10^10$  is not odd.

- (e) If every right triangle in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  has two acute angles, then every real number has a positive cube root.

**Solution:** Every right triangle in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  has two acute angles, and every real number does not have a positive cube root.

- (f) There exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}, n < x$ .

**Solution:** For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , no  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  exists such that  $n < x$ .

- (g) Some squares are rectangles.

**Solution:** All squares are not rectangles.

4. Write both the converse and the contrapositive of the following “if-then” statements.

- (a) If something can think, then it exists.

- (b) If  $p$  is an irrational number, then  $p^2$  is an irrational number.

- (c) If  $n > 2$  is a natural number such that the Collatz sequence beginning with  $n$  does not eventually reach 1, then  $n^2 + 1$  is prime.